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Column One
by David Courtney

SIX nations have initialled the coal and steel agreement which "eternally bears the name of M. Schuman." M. Monnet, the author of the plan, presumably is satisfied, although the corners of his mouth must have turned down a trifle as he contemplated the revisions made to please the Germans. As far as can be gathered, the plan lets Germans keep the bulk of their coal and the major parts of their *Verbandwirtschaft* system, with each of the Ruhr steel plants holding coal mines sufficient to give it 75 per cent of its coke needs. There is no telling, yet, on what basis the coke needs of the Ruhr have been reckoned; but it is certain to have taken into account the likely removal of occupation ceilings and the Ruhr authority and the approach towards the 1938 steel output of 18 million tons. In any case, it looks as if M. Monnet's supra-national high authority will not have more than a quarter of the German coal production to be supra-national about.

WHATEVER the final terms of the Franco-German compromise that has led to the initialling of the agreement, the British are unlikely to show any enthusiasm for them. They cannot do less than give peculiar advantages to the German steel industry, which, according to British calculations, will get the lion's share of the estimated 150 million consumer-market. The compromise, brought about by American intervention, has not been approved by the British government. "The British are not tied to the formula," said Mr. McCloy, "and they will have their say about it later." There would appear to be strong indications that it will be an opposing say. As Britain is still one of the three occupation powers, its rejection of the American formula for coal ownership, which has been endorsed by Germany and France as well as by the four smaller continental producers, could upset the agreement.

IT is difficult for a layman to give an objective judgment on an involved economic and industrial question of this magnitude. One thing appears certain. The Schuman plan, as it stands today, is not a genuine international organization for the equitable pooling of the resources of European heavy industry for the benefit of the consumers. It seems not to have caused the slightest anxiety to Mr. Patterson, the former U.S. Secretary for War, who, as a lawyer, has been briefed by the Germans to plead the case of the Ruhr cartels and the I.G. Farben complex; and the fact that the American compromise formula has been accepted by a German front that was firmly united against the Schuman plan up to three weeks ago, makes it fairly certain that what Mr. McCloy calls giving "a small point here and a small point there" means in effect the giving way to the German steel masters.

THE life of the plan is given at 50 years. Even if British objections should be overcome, and the agreement be started off substantially, survival for a fifth part of that fifty years would seem doubtful. The American desire to restore the German steel output gives to the Ruhr masters an enormous advantage, which they will be quick to use. To begin with, the percentage of German coke available—in fact indispensable—to the allocating authority, will be enough for a year or two to keep French production at a reasonable level; but it would seem to be fairly clear that the rising demand for steel will be met more and more by German industry as a rearmament emergency and that once that emergency is over the German output must come into the open market, including West Europe's dependencies, with special advantages.

GIVEN an ell, the Germans are adept at stretching it to the length of a mile. In the Schuman plan, as in so much else, they have been given a good deal more than an ell and are already planning on the basis of a mile. Not for them the working of the passage back; they are too cunning for that. Their passage back has to be paid for in hard currency by those who were their victims and will be again if they are not careful.

Tel Aviv, March 22.

U.K. Won't Press On Suez Ban Or Pipeline Issue

By George Lichtheim
POST Correspondent

LONDON, Wednesday. — Yesterday's debate on the Anglo-Egyptian Agreement was remarkable chiefly for the light it threw on the Government's Middle Eastern policy. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gaitskell, in his concluding speech, which eloquently stressed the dangers of "economic war" with Egypt, made it clear that there is no intention of taking action towards the reopening of the Suez Canal, although he expressed a pious hope that the Security Council would do something about it. Similarly there is to be no pressure on Iraq to reopen the pipeline.

On the two specific questions pressed by most speakers—whether Egypt would be supplied with arms, and whether the financial agreement was part of an overall settlement — he remained completely silent. The only certainty which emerged was that Whitehall is afraid of trouble with Egypt — Mr. Gaitskell himself used the word "afraid."

The Opposition speakers received considerable support from the Labour backbenchers but were handicapped by Mr. Churchill's insistence that the sterling balances should have been blocked or cancelled — a piece of intransigence which cut across the main lines of debate and visibly helped the Government to rally its supporters.

Narrow Margin

In the end the agreement was saved by the narrowest of margins. Although technically not on a question of confidence, the voting, if adverse, would have amounted to a resounding defeat and forced the Government to abandon the agreement or risk defeat on a formal motion thereafter. Had half a dozen additional Socialist backbenchers followed up their brave words by abstaining — it is believed that six or seven did abstain — this would have happened.

There is some speculation on the probable consequences. Mr. Crossman in his speech was careful to dissociate the new Foreign Secretary from the disastrous policy of his predecessor. He correctly described the agreement as "the last kick of a dying policy" and suggested that Mr. Morrison was free to repudiate it. There is no sign that Mr. Morrison has any such intention, but an adverse vote and the threat of a repetition on a formal motion of confidence might have given him the opportunity.

In the event the manoeuvre failed, principally because the Socialist rebels could not bring themselves to upset the Government. This is likely to happen again and while this mood lasts the Cabinet is safe.

The agreement itself, however, is unpopular with everyone except the Treasury, and hardly a single word was spoken in its defence.

U.K. Considering Action on Iran

LONDON, Wednesday, (Reuter). — Britain is considering various ways of protecting the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company which the Persian parliament is threatening to nationalize, Foreign Secretary Herbert Morrison told the House of Commons today. He did not disclose what form the action would take.

In reply to a further question, the Foreign Secretary reaffirmed Britain's support for Iran against any possible aggressor despite differences on the oil question. Britain would continue to support Iran and other countries which were striving to safeguard their independence and territorial integrity. "Unfortunately at present the Persians are not giving us very much encouragement," he added.

State Refineries to Be Set up in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Wednesday (Reuter). — Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri Pasha Es-Said told Parliament yesterday that the government had allocated funds to build a state oil refinery. He also said that the Government's policy was to secure oil royalties from firms with concessions similar to those in neighbouring countries.

French General Strike Looms

PARIS, Wednesday.—France's six-day-old strike wave threatened to develop into a general strike tonight as the powerful non-Communist Trade Union Confederation, Force Ouvriere, ordered a complete 48-hour rail strike for Thursday and Friday. It was expected that the principal union—the Communist-led Confederation of Labour — would back the order and make it a total strike.

With 100,000 men idle this morning, water service workers, delivery truck drivers and gas workers in the provinces joined bus, railroad, electricity and gas workers already on strike.

In Paris, police broke up picket lines and occupied six electric power plants and three gas works, sending out draft notices to hundreds of key workers in an attempt to resume supplies. During the day some 70 per cent of gas works and electric power stations remained idle.

As water service workers in Paris went out on a warning strike, the Communist-led Confederation of Labour called for a 24-hour strike of all building workers, as well as for the formation of strike action groups among the employees of Air France.

Last night French Premier Henri Queuille gave way on three points before the sweeping tide of social unrest.

He called the Salaries Advisory Board to meet tomorrow instead of next Tuesday, set up a small Cabinet group to raise minimum salary scales and approved twelve milliard francs credits to raise miners' wages instead of the eight milliards already fixed.

M. Queuille's first concession answered last night's ultimatum from the moderate Christian Trade Union Confederation, his second took vital decisions out of the hands of the unwieldy full Cabinet and the third was aimed at warding off threatened nationwide pit stoppages.

M. Queuille went on the air last night and offered to talk with "the free trade unions" (non-Communist free unions) on a "solution to their legitimate preoccupations." He appealed to strikers to end stoppages which were making the population as a whole suffer.

M. Queuille also condemned a "subversive enterprise" which, he said, was exploiting the strikes. Newspaper commentators, however, pointed out that strikers were in every case putting forward straight wage claims, and not, as with previous strikes, during recent years, political demands of Communist inspiration.

Newspaper Editor Barred from Leaving

BUENOS AIRES, Wednesday. —The editor of the Argentine's liberal newspaper, "La Prensa," Dr. Alberto Gainza Paz, was reportedly prevented from leaving the country today, as a government commission accompanied by uniformed police sealed up the paper's printing works and went through its books and files. In Washington, Secretary of State Dean Acheson said that the closing of the newspaper has chilled Argentine-U.S. relations.

Five of the nine members appointed by the Argentine Congress to "intervene and investigate" the commercial enterprise which owns "La Prensa" entered the paper's offices last night and took possession. The paper had been suspended since January 26 following a boycott by the Newsvendors' Union, affiliated to the government-sponsored General Labour Confederation.

Entrances Sealed

Police have now sealed entrances of the "La Prensa" head office as well as the newspaper's six branches in the city and a special permit is needed to enter the building.

Strong protests at the action were also voiced by British and U.S. editors in a special B.B.C. broadcast on the closing of "La Prensa."

One of them, Robert J. Cruikshank, editor of the London "News Chronicle," appealed to listeners to help "rally the public opinion of free men" so that "La Prensa" would know it did not stand alone and the Argentine government would know how other people felt.

A free fight broke out in the Central Argentine provincial capital of Cordoba outside the picketed offices of the newspaper "La Voz del Interior" yesterday. The paper has been boycotted by the Newsvendors' Union (whose boycott had caused the closing down of "La Prensa").

Teheran Calm Under Martial Law

TEHERAN, Wednesday (Reuter). — The Shah made no reference to his proclamation of martial law in Teheran when he delivered a brief Persian New Year broadcast to the nation today.

He did not refer to the assassination of General Ali Razmara, opposer of the oil nationalization scheme, or the wounding of the former Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Hamid Zanganeh on Monday.

Teheran was completely calm. The only sign of martial law was that an armed soldier accompanied each policeman. The first night's curfew passed without incident.

U.S. GRANT TO UNRWA

LAKE SUCCESS, Wednesday (Reuter). — The U.S. has contributed an additional $8,[illegible] to the United Nations Relief Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Middle East, Mr. [illegible] A. Cross, acting American representative, announced today.

The contribution raises the total U.S. contribution to $[illegible],000.

'Prensa' Affair Only 'Labour Dispute'

TEL AVIV, Wednesday.—The Argentine Minister to Israel, Dr. Pablo Manguel, today gave local newsmen his government's version of the "La Prensa" strike, claiming that the matter was a purely internal labour dispute between the paper and the Distributors' Union.

(He was referring to a recent report of the strike in one of the local dailies which had referred to the Argentine Government as "totalitarian," and he coupled his remarks with statements that the Argentine had done much to help Israel by providing food and clothing, and might be able to do much more in future.).

According to Dr. Manguel, the dispute had broken out when the newspaper had trebled its price, from 10 to 30 cents, without giving street vendors an increased percentage. He claimed that foreign newspapers and press agencies had given the strike a "political complexion" which it did not have. The vendors had asked the publishers for a share of the income from classified advertisements which was reasonable, he said, as they were merely demanding some of the profits from this source to establish social funds for rest centres — a matter to which the publishers had orginally agreed.

Referring to the incident in which a press worker was killed, the Argentine Minister admitted that the police had been nearby, but he said they had been unable to ascertain who had fired, as "strike breakers" and pickets had been mingled in a fight at the time.

Histadrut Need Not Receive WFTU Investigators

TEL AVIV, Wednesday.—The Histadrut should refuse the request of the World Federation of Trades Unions to send a delegation here in order to investigate the reasons of the Histadrut's withdrawal, according to Mr. R. Burstein, in charge of the Histadrut External Relations Office, who spoke to the Labour Federation Executive here today. The W.F.T.U. request has been left unanswered for about six weeks and the Histadrut Executive was appealed to today by Mr. Beri Repetur (Mapam) to discuss the causes of the delay.

The Executive, Mr. Burstein argued, was not entitled to discuss the secession from the W.F.T.U., as the matter had been approved by the Histadrut Council. The W.F.T.U. represented a group of bodies with whom the Histadrut wished to maintain friendly relations. Invitations for exchange visits were sent more than a year ago to many national trade unions organizations in the West and the East; it was not the fault of the Histadrut that Western trade unions had arranged reciprocal visits, while from the East there had come refusals or, what was more insulting, no answers at all, he said.

Surprise Announcement

The announcement apparently came as a surprise to Mr. Repetur, other Mapam members of the Executive [illegible] had not revealed their stand privately before the session. Mr. F. Bendori (Mapam) said that the matter was "very grave"; it indicated "a complete harmony between the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Histadrut," and another speaker for Mapam, Mr. Y. Yudin, said that "Mapam would find means of receiving the W.F.T.U. delegation."

Mr. M. Namir, Histadrut Secretary-General, said that factions within the Histadrut had no right to conduct relations with foreign trades unions organizations. The W.F.T.U. letter was sent with a certain purpose, and discussion within the Histadrut was part of that purpose. The matter should have been settled within the Central Committee, he said.

No decision was taken today, and it was decided to adjourn the matter for another meeting.

(Histadrut Budget — Page 2)

Eban to Request U.S. Grant Today

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The interview in Washington at which Ambassador Abba Eban was to have presented Secretary of State Dean Acheson with a request for a $150m. grant-in-aid for Israel has been delayed till tomorrow night, it was learned here this evening. The interview had been scheduled for today.

The note asking for the grant is scheduled to be published tomorrow night.

M.A.C. Discusses Sinai Beduin

No agreement was reached on an Israel complaint to the Israel-Egypt M.A.C. demanding the return across the lines of 5,000 beduin who infiltrated from the Sinai Peninsula during the past few weeks. The complaint was discussed at a meeting of the M.A.C. which took place yesterday at Auja-el-Hafir, with Major Grey of the U.N. Staff in the chair.

This was the third incursion by the tribe, which was last expelled from Israel about three months ago. After investigation of the previous incursions by the same tribe, U.N. ovservers confirmed Israel's assertion that it did not belong in Israel territory and had entered illegally. The Egyptians persist in their claim that the nomads rightfully belong in Israel.

(It was reported on Tuesday that the infiltrators had engaged in skirmishes with Israel beduin in the Negev.).

The Egyptian delegation refused to accept the Chairman's request that it withdraw its complaint on the transfer of Arabs from Migdal Gad to Gaza. The Chairman had concluded on the basis of observations by U.N. onlookers that the Migdal Arabs had moved to Gaza of their own volition with the intention of rejoining their families there.

After the Chairman asked for the opinion of the U.N. Chief of Staff in Israel on both matters, further discussion was tabled till the next session, which will be held three weeks hence.

Israel's complaint on the kidnapping of an Israel Army patrol by Egyptian forces on February 24 was discussed. The patrol was released a few days later.

Soldier Hurt In Clash in South

TEL AVIV, Wednesday.— An Israel soldier was seriously wounded yesterday morning in a skirmish between Army patrols and Arab shepherds who crossed the lines into Israel south of the border near Krayot (Khirbet el Hudeiba) between the Dead Sea and Beersheba, a military spokesman said here today.

The infiltraters were given supporting fire by Arab Legionnaires and Jordan National Guards, but were driven back across the border.

A complaint was lodged today with the Israel-Jordan M.A.C.

Circulation Stays Static at IL.80.8m.

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — No new Treasury bills were issued last week, and currency in circulation remained unchanged at the close of banking business today at IL.80,8[illegible].

While Treasury bills remained at IL.[illegible], [illegible] holdings [illegible] by IL.[illegible] from IL.[illegible] to IL.[illegible] [illegible] by IL.[illegible] [illegible] to IL.[illegible].

Last Base Below Parallel Falls; Allies Consult on Crossing

MacA. Has Right to Advance To Chinese Border — Acheson

WASHINGTON, Wednesday (UP). — Secretary of State Dean Acheson reaffirmed today that General MacArthur has full authority to cross the 38th Parallel and go clear to the Manchurian border. He told a news conference, however, that the U.S. was consulting with its fighting allies on the subject because it was desirable to have a common view.

Replying to questions, Mr. Acheson made it clear that the U.S. did not want to alienate any of its U.N. supporters by taking large-scale precipitate action. His remarks came as there was growing indication in other official quarters that the U.S. and Britain have reached agreement that the U.N. forces in Korea should halt somewhere near the Parallel and give the Chinese another chance to make peace.

Elaborating on Mr. Acheson's statement, the State Department said General MacArthur's authority to cross the Parallel was covered in the general resolution approved on February 1 by the U.N. Assembly. The resolution condemned the Chinese act as aggression and pledged continued resistance to aggression.

Aggression Failed

Mr. Acheson said that the state of the world remained very serious but that aggression in Korea had failed. This was a very important development, he went on, adding that it did not mean that all the problems had been solved. The Western powers were stronger than they were a year ago both in Europe and the Far East.

The Secretary also said that the progress made towards a Japanese peace treaty by Mr. John Foster Dulles had been encouraging.

Allies Urge 'Go Slow' at 38th

NEW YORK, Wednesday (Reuter). — Diplomats of several countries with troops in Korea were reported here today to be advocating "a cautious approach" to U.N. policy on crossing the 38th Parallel in strength. Representatives of a dozen countries met U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk in an hour-long conference yesterday.

It was generally considered that for tactical purposes U.N. forces must cross the Parallel to keep harassing the retreating Communists and to find out what they were doing.

On a long-term basis reports said at least some of those at the conference thought the U.N. command should move cautiously in committing any large forces to a deep penetration of North Korea. The British, Canadians, and some others were said to feel the Korean settlement might more readily be made if the main U.N. forces were not committed to a conquest of North Korea.

Other Washington reports said that it had been agreed to cross the Parallel and form a line across the waist of Korea without trying to reach the Manchurian border.

Work at Elath Worries Egypt

Egypt is worried about Israel's increased activity in the Elath and Negev area, the Cairo Wafdist daily "Al Misri" reported yesterday. The deputy Egyptian C.-in-C., General Hussein Farid Bey, has left by air for Egypt's strip on the Gulf of Akaba to investigate reports that Israel had opened a direct land and air route to Elath and started building air and sea bases, the paper said.

Quoting a report from the Egyptian Army intelligence service in Gaza, "Al Misri" claimed that Israel is building more airfields near the Egyptian armistice lines, and is drafting thousands of youths into the army, equipping them with the most modern British and Russian weapons.

Earlier, the paper reported that the Naval Attache at the British Embassy in Cairo had recently asked the Egyptian Ministry of War and Marine to provide better lighting in the gulf of Akaba to ensure safer passage for British ships to the Jordan-held port of Akaba at the northern tip of the Gulf.

The Egyptian authorities replied that they would only agree if Egyptian naval units took over the control of shipping in the Gulf, "Al Misri" said. They maintained that the lighting might enable single Israel ships to slip through.

M.A.C. Group To Probe Incident

A sub-committee of the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission yesterday discussed three border incidents and decided to send a joint investigating team today to study one of them in the Jerusalem corridor.

The one under investigation is an Israel complaint that Arabs have been grazing their flocks and cultivating land in a demilitarized zone. The other two incidents took place north of Beersheba.

FLIGHT INFORMATION CENTRE FOR M.E.

MONTREAL, Wednesday (UP). — The International Civil Aviation Organization disclosed today that it intends to establish a flight information centre to provide "complete and non-discriminatory service to aircraft of all ICAO member states in the Middle East."

At present the Arab states will not allow Israel planes to land in their [illegible] and they also refuse flight information to Israel flyers.

The [illegible] service of the ICAO is now administered from [illegible].

Chinese Abandon City to U.N. Force

By Julian Bates
Reuter's Correspondent

TOKYO, Wednesday. — **American troops today captured Chunchon, last major Communist base south of the 38th Parallel, without firing a shot. On the east coast, South Koreans were believed to have reached the North Korean frontier itself.**

The Chinese had abandoned Chunchon, 15 kms. south of the Parallel in Central Korea, shortly before rapidly advancing Allied patrols and tanks probed into the city.

According to an eye-witness account, an American tank force entered the city soon after noon, and found the Communists had fled leaving behind scores of burned-out and bullet-ridden vehicles, remains of dead horses and field artillery.

By early afternoon long columns of infantrymen were streaming in the wake of the tanks across the mountain range which overlooks the Chunchon plain along the road into the city. But as a city Chunchon has ceased to exist. Once it was prosperous and heavily populated — the main city of the central borderline. Now great areas have been transformed into an expanse of rubble and earth, burned wooden houses and grotesquely twisted steel girders.

Eighth Army troops had last been reported holding positions eight kms. south of the city this morning.

The latest official report of the South Koreans on the east coast said they were 14 kms. from the Parallel after a quick advance from Kangnung, but observers believed they had reached the boundary by tonight.

US Forces Doubled Since Korea

KEY WEST, Wednesday (Reuter). — President Truman disclosed today that the U.S. has doubled its armed forces since the invasion of Korea to resist "still further Communist attacks against other free nations." U.S. forces now stand at more than 2,900,000, he said.

Mr. Truman's announcement was a new warning to Soviet Russia that the United States "in company with other free nations" is determined "to establish and maintain world peace."

The President's figures were based on a telegram from the Secretary of Defence, General Marshall. "This doubling of our strength has been accomplished less than nine months after the Communist aggression against the republic of Korea," General Marshall wired.

"For your information, the strength we have already attained — a total in excess of 2,900,000—was not attained in World War II until more than 21 months after our build-up started in June, 1940, following the fall of France and more than three months after Pearl Harbour."

President Truman took unusual steps to seek world-wide disclosure of the progress of American defences and his exchange of telegrams with General Marshall was radioed round the world by the State Department's "Voice of America."

Radioed to World

The President telegraphed Mr. Marshall:

"I wish to commend you and all your associates in the army, navy and air force for the strenuous efforts which have made such growth possible.

"This tremendous gain in our strength has been made necessary by the lawless aggression of Communist forces in Korea and by the menace of still further Communist attacks against other free nations.

"The armed forces we are building, and the supplies for them which our factories, farms and mines are turning out, are for the protection and preservation of our freedom."

Big 3 Talks Soon On Med. Defence

LE HAVRE, Wednesday, (UP) —The U.S., Britain and France will shortly confer on Mediterranean Defence, French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman disclosed here yesterday.

Today M. Schuman left here with President Vincent Auriol on board the "Ile de France" for an official Presidential visit to the U.S.

Before leaving, M. Schuman said "one can be assured a tripartite conference will soon take place." He added that he did not feel that Britain had acted wrongly in releasing the French protest over their exclusion from the Anglo-American defence talks at Malta.

M. Schuman explained that the Malta talks were arranged for the military men of the two countries at present effectively in the area, and there had been no intention of pushing France aside.

BIG FOUR TALKS AT STANDSTILL

PARIS, Wednesday (Reuter). — The Big Four deputies failed again today to go forward with their efforts to draft an agenda for a Foreign Ministers conference. There was no progress at the 15th meeting nor were any new proposals or amendments tabled, a British spokesman said.

M. Andrei Gromyko, the Russian Deputy, set a new conference record by speaking for two hours and ten minutes, including translation time. He challenged the Western contention that acceptance of the Soviet proposals on German demilitarization and reduction of armaments would mean taking decisions on the substance of these questions.

Mr. Ernest Davies, the British Deputy, said the deputies were still as far apart as they had been at the beginning of the conference.

He said a first study of yesterday's Soviet proposal did not lead him to believe that it would serve as a basis for agreement between them.

Britain Closes Six Consulates in China

LONDON, Wednesday (Reuter). — Britain is to close six of her consulates in China, Foreign Secretary Herbert Morrison told Commons today.

He said there had been serious administration difficulties in maintaining and staffing these posts. But there was no intention of closing consulate posts in districts with substantial British interests.

It is noted that today's decision leaves only four British consulates in China, those in Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton and Peking.

LUNCHEON at the KING DAVID HOTEL

Yemenite Reunited with Family After 6 Years' Wandering

Madmoun Aaron, 50-year-old Yemenite who reached Israel last Monday after wandering about Arab countries for six years, was re-united yesterday with his relatives, including a sister and his eight-year-old daughter who live in Rehovot.

The group arrived at Jerusalem police headquarters where Aaron had been held for questioning. After a moving scene of welcome, they went to the Jewish Agency where Aaron received an immigrant's certificate. They all then left for Rehovot.

Aaron was delighted at reaching Israel after six years of wandering that started in the Yemen and included interludes in several Arab states, and jails, and service with Arab irregulars in the War of Liberation.

Speaking to reporters in mixed Hebrew and Arabic at Jerusalem police headquarters, Aaron said he had left the Yemen after he had divorced his first wife and his second had died.

"I wanted to get away, so I set out for Hedjaz," he said. "I stayed there for a while under one Arabic name, then went to Mecca, always picking up new Arabic names as I went along."

Reached Jaffa

He cut off his sidelocks. He slept out of doors, mostly in market places. After a year, he started looking for other Jews and went to Amman in 1946. Not finding many there he went to Baghdad, but soon was caught and deported to Amman.

More time passed and he finally went by bus to Jaffa just as the first fighting began. "Some Arabs then took me back to the Old City of Jerusalem where I stayed three or four days and was beaten because they suspected me of being Jewish," he said. "But they weren't sure and I didn't help them, so they released me."

Aaron returned to Amman from where he wandered down the Sinai Peninsula until he joined a group of Yemenite Arabs and went with them from Rafah to Gaza, then to Hebron. Here he went to work as a cook with "some Arabs" who turned out to be irregular forces that were to fight outside Jerusalem.

He was with them at "Miss Carey's," above Ein Karem, and Malha and escaped with them after "the Jews treated us roughly with bombs and lots of shooting." He stayed with the Arabs because he feared that the Jews would take him for an Arab.

To Bethlehem

He went to Bethlehem and later to Amman where he worked as a baker, then back again to Bethlehem. In the Old City he told a U.S. Consulate guard that he was a Jew who wanted to go to Israel. The guard told Arab Legionnaires, he said, who threw him in jail and beat him. He was sentenced to three years in jail and was moved from jail to jail in the Old City, Ramallah and Amman for almost two years.

"Suddenly I was informed that Israel had asked for me and that I was to be sent here," he concluded.



Social & Personal

The British Minister to Israel and Lady Helm returned from a holiday in Cyprus yesterday.

The Australian Minister to Israel and Mrs. J.C.W. Fuhrman left for Cyprus yesterday on a short visit.

Mrs. Floretta Pomeroy, I.R.O. director in Austria, who is visiting Israel as the guest of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department, was received on Tuesday by Mr. Berl Locker, Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive. A reception for Mrs. Pomeroy was held at the Agency on the same day.

Mr. Charles Lutz, Swiss Consul in Budapest during World War II, arrived in Israel by Swissair yesterday in conection with Lutheran Church property in Israel.

Mr. F.W. Pollack, Trade Commissioner of Israel to India and South-East Asia, has arrived in Israel for a short visit and is staying at the Yarden Hotel, Tel Aviv.

Dr. H. Necheles, Director of the Department of Gastro-Intestinal Research, Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, and Chairman of the Central Section of the American Committee of the Israel Medical Association, is now visiting Israel.

Dr. G. Fisher-Joslyn, of California, pediatrician and leading member of the American Committee of the Israel Medical Association, has arrived in Israel for an extensive visit.

Mr. Maurice Schwartz, Yiddish actor, left the U.S. for Israel yesterday. He will tour the country for two months.

The French tennis player, Jean Borotra, arrived in Israel by Cyprus Airways yesterday.

Dr. Alexander Bein, Assistant Director of the Central Zionist Archives, has left for Europe.

Mr. Eliezer Ettingen, member of the Zionist General Council, was recently inscribed in the Jewish National Fund Golden Book by Haoved Hazioni. The presentation was in appreciation of his initiative in founding the "Haoved Hazioni Enterprises" company, and was made by Mr. Moshe Kol, of the Jewish Agency Executive, and Mr. P. Unikovski, of Kibbutz Nitzanim.

The representatives in Israel of UNICEF, Dr. J. Mabileau, Mr. J. Ludol, and Mr. F. Hunt, addressed the Haifa Rotary Club yesterday.

A scientific colloquium sponsored by the Israel Society for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics will be held at the Hebrew Technical College at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon in Haifa.

An exhibition of paintings by Rico Blass will be opened at the Katz Art Gallery in Tel Aviv at 11.30 on Saturday morning.

The annual Fancy Dress Ball of the Zevulun Seafaring Society will take place tonight at the Casino Bat-Galim. Floor show, surprises, lottery prizes including a round-trip to the U.S.A.

The guest singer, S. Jankovic, of the Belgrade Opera, will sing the role of Figaro in "The Barber of Seville" presented by the Hebrew National Opera at the Armon Theatre in Haifa at 9 tonight. G. Singer will conduct.

BIRTH

BELLMAN — To Ruth (nee Milstein), wife of Mr. Isidore Bellman, on Tuesday, March 20, 1951, at the Imahut Maternity Home, Haifa — a daughter.

SWEDISH TRADE UNIONISTS IN J'LEM

The Swedish trade union delegation, headed by Mr. Axel Strand, Vice-Chairman of the Swedish Parliament and Head of the Swedish Trade Union movement, left Jerusalem yesterday morning after a one-day visit. They proceeded to Tel Aviv, where they were received by the Histadrut Executive.

They lunched with Mrs. Golda Myerson, the Minister of Labour, and Mr. Moshe Baram, Secretary of the Jerusalem Labour Council. In the afternoon they met Mr. Berl Locker, Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive.

The delegation was also received by Mr. Yair Hacurabi, Director of the Head office of the Jewish National Fund.

In the evening the delegates attended part of the Knesset budgetary debate, and dined with Mr. Joseph Sprinzak, Speaker of the Knesset; the Deputy Speaker, Dr. Y. Burg, and Mr. Meyer Argov and Mr. Zalman Aranne, Knesset members.

Mr. Sprinzak expressed his admiration for Swedish culture and technology, and thanked Sweden for the generous attitude shown Jewish refugees during the Nazi holocaust. Mrs. Greta Bergstrom, Head of the Housewives' Division of the Swedish Trade Union Organization, replied for the delegation.

The Hebrew National
OPERA
HAIFA: Armon
Tonight, at 9.
JERUSALEM: Edison
Wednes. March 28, 8.45 p.m.
Barber of Seville
with the guest singer
S. JANKOVIC
of the Opera in Belgrade.
Conductor: G. SINGER
TEL AVIV: Habimah
Tuesday, March 27, 9 p.m.
Rigoletto
with S. JANKOVIC in the role of "RIGOLETTO."
Conductor: M. GOLINKIN

London Cartoonist Turns Actor

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — Work began today on a coloured travelogue on Galilee, starring Mr. David Langdon, the cartoonist of "Punch" and the "Sunday Pictorial." The film is to be produced by Mr. Norman Lourie. Called "Holiday in Galilee" the film will show Israel through the eyes of the famous humorist, Mr. Lourie said.

Mr. Langdon, a 37-year-old Londoner, said that he had never studied acting, but thought that this would be no bar to his work as he was also a self-taught cartoonist.

The camera work of the film is in the hands of Mr. Larry Friedman who arrived with Mr. Langdon yesterday. He worked in Israel last year on the film, "Ein Breira."

Lodge Intervenes In U.S. For Iraqis

Representations have been made in the United States by the B'nai Brith Supreme Lodge in Washington on behalf of the Jews of Iraq, it was learned in Jerusalem yesterday.

The action was taken in accordance with a request sent by the Israel B'nai Brith Grand Lodge Convention held recently in Tel Aviv, asking the Supreme Lodge to intervene with the U.S. Government and the U.N. in the matter.

B'nai Brith Children Receive U.S. Toys

Parcels of toys for children in the B'nai Brith children's homes in Jerusalem and Jaffa arrived recently from the U.S. where they were collected by B'nai Brith youth groups in Brooklyn, El Paso, Chicago, New Orleans and Houston.

Children in the Jerusalem home have decided to hand over some of the gifts received for distribution in immigrant camps and ma'barot. Presentation ceremonies will be held on Purim eve.

As a result of the gifts, correspondence has been initiated between B'nai Brith youth in Israel and the U.S.

FRENCH AIR STUDENTS MAKE SHORT VISIT

LYDDA AIRPORT, Wednesday. — A group of 14 students and three instructors from the French government's national school of aviation landed here this afternoon in their own Dakota aircraft for a one-day tour of the Airport and its facilities, and neighbouring settlements.

Mr. Victor Gor, the Director of Civil Aviation, greeted the visitors. Most of the students are in the final stage of a two-year course for ground personnel. Israel is the eighth stop on an itinerary of ten countries.

A cultural centre, comprising reading and writing rooms and a games hall was opened by the Soldiers' Welfare Committee in an Army camp in the Sharon yesterday.

Y.M.C.A.
MUSIC HOUR
March 22
Recorded concert of sacred music by Schubert, Bach, and Beethoven.
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED
9 p.m.

Father Freed Never Kidnapped Child

NATHANYA, Wednesday. — Robert Harson, 37, charged with kidnapping a five-weeks-old baby in Nathanya in February, was today released by Magistrate E. Slonim here, because of insufficient evidence. Harson is the father of the baby.

The mother, Maggie Laseri, under cross-examination, today changed her previous evidence. When first called to the stand today, the witness repeated her former claim that Harson, who also lived in the Amidar quarter here, had called on her while her parents were out and had asked her permission to show the baby to some friends. He had then disappeared, she said.

The baby was discovered the next day in the Tel Aviv WIZO Babies' Home and returned by police. Under cross-examination, however, the mother admitted that she had agreed with the father that he was to take the baby to the infants' home. Even now, she said, she was willing that the baby be taken back to the Babies' Home, adding that she was willing to marry Harson. She told the Court that Harson had paid for her confinement and had provided all the money needed for the child's care.

Harson has asked for permission to return the child to the Babies' Home, pointing out that the mother lives together with seven other persons, in a two-roomed house. After the young mother said she was afraid that her parents would punish her, police are stated to have warned the family not to harm her.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Batish, 8 Strauss, 2911; Levant, St. Julians Way, 4856.
TEL AVIV: Abramski, 43 Allenby, 3526; Yellin, 1 Hahashmal, 3137; Bilu, 21 Bilu, 4063; Emmanuel, 63 Ben Yehuda, 2183. **JAFFA:** Trufa, Givat Aliya, 80221.
HAIFA: Harefuah, 61 Hehalutz, 2277; Anglo-American, 39 Kingsway, 3505.

ON THE AIR

TEL AVIV: 43.9, 33.3 & 522 M.; **JERUSALEM:** 407 M.; **HAIFA:** 349 M.

NEWS: **Hebrew:** 7 a.m., 1.30 p.m., 6, 8.30 and 10.25 p.m.; **English:** 2 and 10.15 p.m.; **Arabic Programme** (including News): 8 a.m., 2.15 and 7.15 p.m.; **French:** 3 p.m.

7.15 a.m. "Megilah Reading." 10.00 a.m. Morning Concert (R). 10.30 Operas (R). 11.00 Concert Hall: Overture "Orpheus in the Underworld" (Offenbach); Interplay for Piano & Orchestra (Gould); Carnival of the Animals (Saint-Saens). 11.45 Folk Dances (R). 12.00 N. Break for Music (R). 12.30 Programme for Hospitals (R). 1.00 Soldiers' Programme. 1.45 Housewives' Corner. 3.15 Close Down.

4.00 p.m. Programme for Yemenites. 4.30 Musical Miniatures (R). 5.00 Purim Melodies (R). 5.15 Where to Go (Jerusalem). 5.15 Purim Programme (Tel Aviv). 5.45 Purim Songs (R). 6.15 Language Corner. 6.30 Children's Hour. 7.00 Songs (R). 7.45 Bible Reading. 8.00 Soldiers' Programme. 8.40 Commentaries. 8.45 "The Knesset and Its Committees." 9.00 "The Tourist from Florida." Purim Opera. 9.45 Purim Programme. 10.30 Dance Music. 11.15 Dance Music (R). 11.15 Close Down.

Immigrants' Hour (33.3 M.): 7.00 p.m. **Yiddish;** 7.30 p.m. **Ladino;** 7.40 p.m. **French;** 8.00 p.m. **Turkish;** 8.15 p.m. **Persian.**

Kol Zion Lagola (33.3 M.): 12.00 Newsreel. 12.15 Purim Programme.

B.B.C. HEBREW BROADCASTS (31.32 and 24.92 M.): 6.30 News. 6.40 News Talk. 6.45 This Week's Tune. 6.46 London Letter.

ARMY PROGRAMMES: (230 M. & 46.6 M.): 6.30 p.m. Programme Announcements. 6.33 Request Programme. 7.00 "Know Your Country." 7.45 Guest in the Studio. 8.00 Soldiers' Programme. 8.30 News. 8.40 Interlude. 8.45 Literary Quiz. 9.15 Dance Music. 10.00 Close Down.

s.s. WILPO
Consignees of cargo per the above vessel are hereby informed that General Average has been declared.
Contributions of 3% of the C.I.F. value of cargo will have to be paid prior to delivery and General Average Bonds signed.
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Weissfish Received No Exit Visa

"Leibele" Weissfish had not been issued an exit visa, the Secretary of the Department of Exit Visas, Mr. R. Setton, testified at a preliminary inquiry before Magistrate A. Eden yesterday. Weissfish, 29, is charged with refusing to enlist in the Army, leaving the country without a visa, and communicating with the enemy.

Corporal Z. Rabinowitz identified the evidence he had recorded. According to the evidence Weissfish admitted having been in Jordan but refused to give reasons for his actions, but saying that he might do so in Court.

POST Article Cited

Dr. R. Weyl, appearing for the accused, applied to see the police files. Upon the objection of Deputy District Attorney A. Kwart, Dr. Weyl cited a recent opinion of the High Court reported in *The Jerusalem Post* on March 16. The Magistrate said he would rule on the request in his judgment.

Constable H. Bodana, who was imprisoned by the Legion last year after crossing the lines by mistake and who claims to have met Weissfish in prison in Ramallah, stated that the accused had explained his presence by saying "There is nothing left for me to do in Israel; I came of my own will. There is no work and no food." Weissfish was also alleged to have said that he left Israel to raise funds for the emigration of 350 Natorei Karta members.

Finally, Constable Bodana claimed that Weissfish had written a letter "confessing" the responsibility of the Jewish inmates of the prison for the wounds suffered by one of them at the hands of the Legion. Under threats of death they were forced to sign the document, the witness said.

The Magistrate refused to grant Weissfish bail, remanding him for another 15 days.

Former 'Kapo' Accused Of Kicking Inmate

TEL AVIV Wednesday (ITIM) —A former "Kapo" (overseer) at the Keitelstreiben concentration camp in Lower Silesia was accused in the Magistrate's Court here today by a former inmate of having severely kicked a fellow-prisoner until he coughed blood. The victim was later taken to the hospital and never returned from there, the witness, Mr. Shmuel Lapiner, of Beersheba said.

The accused, Mordecai Friedman, is charged with beating prisoners who stood in the food line, causing the death of the person he had kicked, and throwing an insane prisoner into a water reservoir.

The hearing is to be resumed on March 26.

Physical Training Teachers Meet

HAIFA, Wednesday. — The 20th convention of the Association of Physical Training Teachers in Israel was opened today in the presence of about 300 delegates. The convention will discuss the establishment of a unified physical training programme for elemntary and secondary schools.

Local Stars Punished

The Israel Football Association Complaints Committee recently suspended and punished a number of local players for offences committed on the field of play.

These included Tzvi Studinski and Yona Fuchs, who have turned out for Israel's National side very often. The punishments arose out of incidents during the game between Tel Aviv Maccabi and Haifa Maccabi on March 3. Studinsky was warned for unsportsmanlike behaviour, while Fuchs was suspended for one week for interfering with the referee.

For hitting another player during the game between Jaffa Maccabi and Zichron Maccabi on the same day, Yehoshua Dahan was suspended for two months.

It is a pity that these incidents occur regularly in Israel soccer, and it is surprising that players of the experience of Studinsky and Fuchs, who have played overseas on Israel's teams, should be involved.

The I.F.A. should devote itself to a fresh investigation and approach to this problem — which persists despite repeated warnings.

Local Sports Snips

The Israel Football Association has decided to start Youth League games for 15 to 17-year-olds. Interested parties should register before next Sunday.

The Annual Edelson Memorial Run through the streets of Tel Aviv is to be held on Saturday.

Games for youth basketball teams were held in Rehovot last weekend. Rishon Maccabi A.I.L. gained the best aggregate of points among the four sides taking part, winning their three games.

SHIPS IN HAIFA PORT ON WEDNESDAY

A.J. Falkaland, Sw., Paper, Gen. Cargo
Komemiut, Is., Gen. Cargo.
Kypros, Br., Loading Citrus
Champollion, Fr., Passengers.
N. Vaptzarov, Bul., Coal.
Olsztyn, Pol., Gen. Cargo.
Unce, Yug., Wood.
Lica Maersk, Dan., Barley.
Amarna, Br., Gen. Cargo.
Tel Aviv, Is., Gen. Cargo.
Christine, U.S., Wheat.
Brucia Tutto, It., Wood.
Artsa, Is., Compl. Unloading.
Montredizio, It., Gen. Cargo.
Galilah, Is., Being Repaired.
A.M. Norsninen, Fin., Wood.
Dobroudja, Bul., Household Eff.
Piriant, Tur., Compl. Unloading.
Gavriel, Is., Compl. Unloading.
Hamored, Is., Waiting to Offload.
Torus, Tur., Wood.
Recco, It., Being Repaired.
Kina, Dan., Copra.

SHIPS EXPECTED

Date	Ship	Cargo
21	Nazim	Barley.
21	Traky	Bones.
21	Hashlosha	Gen. Cargo, Wooden Logs.
21	Else S.	Gen. Cargo, Sand Cement, Pipes.
21	Tzfonit	Gen. Cargo.
22	Titsa	Cement.
22	Yozgat	Wheat.
22	Transilvania	Immigrants, Imm's Effects, Frozen Meat.
22	Plehanov	Wood, Flour.
22	Genevieve Lykes	Gen. Cargo, Iron, Cotton.
23	Coruh	Onions.
22	Kaptanoglu	Onions.
22	Filippo Grimani	Passengers, Gen. Cargo, Mail.
23	Scio	Cement, General Cargo.
21	Negbah	Immigrants, Gen Cargo.
25	Ornafjell	Gen. Cargo.
?	Exilona	Flour, Foodstuff, Gen. Cargo.

SHIPS IN TEL AVIV PORT

Akko, Is., Iron, Gen. Cargo.
Jack Star, Pan., Rye.
Hector, Hol., Gen. Cargo.

SHIPS IN JAFFA PORT

Levant, Pol., Timber, Iron, Fertilizer, Gen. Cargo.
Ternoetjell, Nor., Loading Citrus.
Grecian, Br., Pipes, Gen. Cargo.

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2. Yoki, 52 Rehov Allenby (opp. Mograbi).
3. Photo London, 80 Rehov Hayarkon (opp. Lifschits)
4. Armon, 4 Rehov Hess
5. Eliyahu Bros., 15 Rehov Herzl
6. Yoki, 6 King George St., (Perfumery shop, Shemen house), Jaffa
7. Dobovits House, 59 Rehov Bialik, Ramat Gan
8. Ruth Cafe, Main Road, Petah Tikva
9. Peltours, Rehovot
10. Masada shop, Rishon le Zion
11. Daka Services, 6 Khayat St. Haifa
12. Yuval, Rehov Herzl, Haifa
13. S. Cahana, Jerusalem.
TODAY
PERFORMANCES AT
11 a.m., 4 p.m., 8.45 p.m.
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Stock Markets

TEL AVIV

MARCH 21.	Buyers	Sellers
Government Loans		
3% due 31.12.53	100½	100¾
3% due 30.9.55	99½	100¼
Pop. 49-69 (IL.10)	98½	100¼
ditto (IL.20)	99¾	100¼
Sh. Leumi Le'Israel		
"A" Ord. Sh.	180	—
3% Nat. Loan		
1948/53 (IL.10)	164	165
(large)	157	—
A.P.B. Invest.		
6% Debs. 50/70	110¼	111½
4% Debs. 51/71	112½	113½
4% Debs. 60/75	110½	111½
4½% Pref. Shares	111¼	112¼
Gen. Mortg. Bk.		
4% Debs. 48/63	92½	93½
4% Debs. 49/64	91½	92½
4% Debs. 52/66	91½	92½
4% Debs. 53/67	92½	93½
6% Pref. Sh.	116	117
Ord. Sh.	125	126
Bizur Debs.		
4% 46/58	91½	92½
4½% 52/66 reg.	93	94
Nir Ltd.		
4% Debs. 37/51	99	—
4% Debs. 39/59	90	91
5% Pref. Sh.	73½	74½
4% Pref. Sh.	71½	72½
4½% Pref. Sh. reg.	72	73
Pasa Debs.		
4% 42/62	87	88
4% 40/64	87½	88½
Inva Ltd.		
5% Debs. 40/51	96½	97½
P.L.D.C.		
6% Pref. Sh.	114	115
Ord. Sh.	180	—
Afr.-Pal. Inv.		
Ord. Sh.	145	—
Rassco		
4% Debs. 41/55	96½	97½
4% Debs. 47/61	93½	92½
4% Debs. 56/69	88½	84½
Mort.-Sav. Bk.		
5% Debs. 55/69	97½	98½
Potash		
6% Pref. Sh.	19/-	19/6
'A' Ord. Sh.	24/-	24/9
Pal. Electric		
Ord. Sh. (Ldn).	53/-	53/9
Israel Issue	54/-	54/6
Jer. Electric		
Ord. Sh. (Ldn).	22/-	—
Mekoroth Ltd.		
5% Pref. Sh.	78	79
Ata		
4% 'B' Pref. Sh.	140	141
4% "C" Pref. S.	140	141
Ord. Sh. 'B' reg.	180	—
Koor		
5½% Pref. Sh. reg.	80½	81½
S.A. Binyan		
Ord. Sh.	98	99
Pal. Ctr. Trade		
5% Pref. Sh.	86½	87½
Hamashbir Fin.		
4½% Debs. 47/61	96	97
"Atid" Navig.		
5% Debs. 50/69	75	76
Pal. Bearer Bd.		
Ser. 1	11.000	11.000
Ser. 2, 3	11.075	11.175

LONDON

CLOSING March	19.	20.
2% Consols	67	67½
3½% War Loan	90½	90 15/16
6½% Brazil "B"	81	81
5% Chile	—	—
4% Japan	46½	46½
Anglo-Iranian Oil	101/10½	103/9
Ashanti Goldfields	31/1½	30/10½
Atkinson Oates	—	—
Brakpan	22/6	22/6
Burmah Oil	53/9	54/4½
Carreras "A" Ord.	106/3	106/3
Courtaulds Ord.	41/9	41/6
De Beers Pref.	17½	17½
Dunlop Ord.	57/3	57
Eastern Transvaal	—	—
Gen. Electric Ord.	85/3	85/6
General Mining	6½	6½
Hudson Bay	99/6	99/6
I.C.I.	44/6	44/6
Jerus. Electric	12/8	12/6
Marks&SpencerOrd	82/-	82/1½
Mexican Eagles	24/-	24/-
North Broken Hill	75/7½	75/7½
Pal. Electric	22/6	22/8
Rhokana Corp.	20	20
Roan Antelope	19/1½	19/-
Selection Trust	46/1½	46/1½
Shell Transport	84/4½	85/7½
Simmer & Jack	8/-	7/9
S.A. Townships	—	20/-
Sub Nigel	3 7/16	3 7/16
Sungei Besi	—	—
Vickers Ord.	43/6	43/1½
West. Rand Inv.	—	—

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A garage and transport servicing station has been opened in Elath by the "Yael" transport cooperative of World War II veterans.

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1944—Sullivans
1945—Song of Bernadette
1946—A Tree Grows in Brooklyn
1947—Razor's Edge
1948—Gentleman's Agreement
1949—The Snake Pit
1950—House of Strangers
1950—Pinky
1951 "NO WAY OUT"
another Darryl F. Zanuck —20th Century-Fox Hit!
starring
RICHARD WIDMARK
LINDA DARNELL
NEXT WEEK AT THE "ARMON," Haifa

Where to Go

JERUSALEM

9-1; 2-5: Exhibit of the Month: Original ceramic plate by Picasso; Bezalel Museum.

TEL AVIV

9-1; 3-7: Ceramics by Jean David; Mikra Studio, 56 Rehov Allenby.
10-4: Works by Israel Artists; Tel Aviv Museum.
7.30 & 9.45 p.m.: "Special Appeal;" Li-La-Lo; Yasha Heifetz Hall.

HAIFA

8 a.m.-5.30 p.m.: Theological and Scientific Library — Central Synagogue Bldg., Rehov Gilad.
10-1; 4-6: Municipal Museum, 2 Hassan Shukri Street.
6.30 p.m.: "Tartuffe;" Chamber Theatre; Orah Hall.

SUPREME COURT CASES TODAY

Before Justices Dunkelblum, Cheshin & Witkon: (H.C.42/51): B.H. Bouloe (rep. by Nakara) v. Controller of Supply & Others; (H.C.43/51): Uda Abas el Asbab (rep. by Nakara) v. Minister of Immigration & Others; (C.A.8/50): B.H. Gdansky (rep. by Henigman) v. A. Romano & Others.

Before Justices Olshan, Silberg & Landau: (C.A.81/49): Y.Y. Levy (rep. by Nader); v. Y.Y. Aharon (rep. by Kosoy); (C.A.1/50): Y. Kalman Tal (rep. by Michalovsky) v. Y. Elheimer (rep. by Sheinfeld).

STATE OF ISRAEL

Notices to the Public

COURSES AND LECTURES ON VIOLIN PLAYING

The world renowned violin pedagogue, Prof. Max Rostal, who will come here as guest of the Government, is planning a series of courses and lectures on violin playing both for teachers and students. All interested should apply early, and not later than March 25, to the Parnassis Office, 24 Shderot Rothschild, Tel Aviv, 11 a.m. till 1 p.m. for further particulars and registration.

Courses will begin on April 1.

Jerusalem Cinemas

At 3, 6.30 & 9.30 p.m.

EDEN: Gone with the Wind.
EDISON: The Red Pony.
ORION: Three Came Home.
SEMADAR: Fury at Furnace Creek. (6.30 & 9.30 p.m.).
STUDIO: The Kid from Brooklyn. (3, 6.30, 8.45 p.m.).
ZION: Mark of the Gorilla (6.30 p.m. only).

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51 Rehov Hayarkon, Tel Aviv

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2 Rehov Trumpeldor (Central Hotel),
Tel.5984 Tel Aviv

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Today's POST BAG

THE WEATHER

	*A	B	C	D
Mt. Carmel	78	—	19	21
Haifa	80	9	26	27
Lydda	49	10	28	26
Jerusalem	26	12	21	22
Beersheba	29	11	26	26

Forecast: Fair to partly cloudy.
*A) Humidity at 9 p.m. B) Minimum temp. C) Maximum yesterday. D) Maxim. temp. expected today.

* * *

1,300 immigrants from Rumania are due in the s.s. Transilvania today. ..... 120 passengers are due in the s.s. Filippo Grimani today. ..... 177 children and 200 other immigrants arrived in the s.s. Champollion yesterday.

* * *

The Army weekly magazine "Bamachane" will not appear this week owing to a lack of paper..... Unidentified persons on Tuesday entered the printing press in which the weekly picture paper, "Haolam Hazeh" is printed and scattered the type set up for the magazine's next issue.

* * *

A large quantity of cottonwool was destroyed in a fire which broke out in a factory in Tel Aviv yesterday.

ENOUGH FEED 'TIL AUGUST

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — Stocks of poultry feed are sufficient to last until August, Mr. I. Ephrati, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, told a delegation of the Agricultural Council today.

He said that efforts were being made to obtain additional quantities of feed, and assured the delegation that there was no truth in the rumour that the Government intended reducing by a third the number of chickens now being raised.

TINNED MEAT FOR TEL AVIV

Tinned meat will be distributed in the Tel Aviv district for one week beginning today. It is not yet known whether the meat will be available in the rest of the country.

Four types of tins will be put on sale. One of them, from Mexico, was approved by the Rabbinate abroad, but has not been recognized by the local Rabbinate. Tins of Canadian meat, which have been recognized by the local Rabbinate, will be sold in special shops.

The other two types were not approved by the Rabbinate.

Ration News

TEL AVIV: Tinned meat: distribution will begin today and continue all next week: 20 oz. Mexican tin (180 pruta), or 2/3rds Mexican tin, 28 oz. (280 pruta), or 30 oz. Mexican tin (approved by Rabbinate abroad, 300 pruta), or 12 oz. Canadian tin (approved by local Rabbinate, 180 pruta): Mat 19, 20, 21: distribution at butchers, fish shops and special stations.

TEL AVIV DISTRICT — Tomatoes: 150 grams, Tav 21, distribution in zones 7, 8. Bananas: 300 grams, Peh 19; visitors, 23; tourists, "milk" 3; distribution ends Tuesday. Chicken: 250 grams, Shin Dalet 7; visitors, 38; tourists, 8, special card, distribution in zone 3; ill persons, Het Aleph 11, 750 grams; Het-Bet 11, 600 grams; Het-Dalet 3, 500 grams.

HAIFA and SAMARIA DISTRICT — Meat: distribution to ill persons, Het-Aleph 11, 750 grams; Het-Gimel 11, 1 kilo; Het-Dalet 3, 500 grams.

NORTHERN DISTRICT — Eggs: children, 5; adults, 3; Rosh 30; visitors, 9. Chicken: 250 grams, Shin-Dalet 7; visitors, 36. Fish: 150 grams, Shin-Gimel 20; visitors, 38. Tomatoes: 300 grams, Aleph and Bet, 216; visitors, 52. Bananas: 500 grams, Aleph and Bet, Peh 19; visitors, 41; ill persons, one kilo, Bet card, Het Bet 9. Butter: 100 grams, Aleph and Bet, Samech 14; visitors, 25; ill persons, 100 grams.

Personal Notice

Our deepest sympathy with the Rabi family on the death of the late

Mr. OTTO RABL

Employees and workers of the
Castel Co. Ltd., Jerusalem
Sweets and Chocolates Factory.

March 21, 1951.

The management, physicians and employees of the Haifa Government Hospital announce with grief the untimely death of

Dr. E. M. KLEINHAUS,
Head of the X-Ray Department,

and express their sympathy to the bereaved family.

The funeral will leave at 2 p.m. this afternoon from the Hospital at Bat Galim.

Debate on Interim Budget Concluded

The Knesset debate on the interim budget was completed yesterday, and Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan will reply on Monday.

The Finance Committee was formally authorized yesterday morning to proceed with the action necessary to prepare the estimates for the second and third readings. The matter is urgent because the proposals must be voted upon next week if they are to be passed before the end of the current fiscal year on March 31.

It will be recalled that on Tuesday Mr. Tewfik Toubi (Communist) had opposed sending the bill to Committee before finishing the first reading. The House Committee yesterday discussed the situation and voted unanimously that the estimates may be sent to the Finance Committee in view of the importance and urgency of the matter. They recommended, however, that the debate should be wound up by yesterday instead of being postponed until next week.

Poor Attendance

The attendance was poor in the final hours of the debate. The House heard an authoritative speech by Mr. Itzhak Kanev (Mapai) on social services. Mr. Kanev had been the Government's top authority on social security until he entered the Knesset last month.

He said that 1,000 more hospital beds, 2,000 beds in tuberculosis sanitaria and 600 in mental asylums were needed and urged that local authorities should share the burden of hospitalization costs. He pointed out that a rich township like Ramat Gan did not maintain a single hospital bed.

Mr. Shmuel Mikunis (Communist) came out with a proposal to reduce the defence budget. He said the Government policy of universal military service was extravagant and said that a small standing army and reserves in the workers settlements, in the traditions of the Haganah and the Palmach, would suffice.

Other speakers yesterday were Dr. Hannan Rubin (Mapam), Mr. Zvi Yehuda (Mapai), Mrs. Rahel Kagan (Wizo), Rabbi Abraham Shaag (Orthodox), Mr. Zeharia Gluska (Yemenites) and Mr. Shraga Goren (Mapai).

Knesset To Recess For a Month

The Knesset will recess for one month after the Passover holiday as from April 12, it was decided yesterday by the House Committee.

Committees will meet during the recess, it was decided.

Truman Asked To Free Negro

A cable to President Truman in Washington pleading for amnesty for Willie MacGee, a Negro condemned to death for rape in Mississippi five years ago, was sent from Jerusalem yesterday by the Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, Dr. Nahum Nir, and Dr. Moshe Sneh, Mrs. Feiga Ilanit and Mr. Aharon Zisling (all Mapam) and Mr. Tewfik Toubi (Communist), all Knesset members, and Rabbi Benyamin, a writer.

T.A. Traffic Police To Get More Men

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The under-staffed traffic police will soon be reinforced, it was learned today from Police headquarters. Tel Aviv is to get 25 more men for patrols and for duty at intersections.

There have been only a handful of men available for traffic duty so far and they were mainly busy in investigating accidents and giving evidence in Court.

Newcomer Seriously Hurt by Truck

HADERA, Wednesday. — Suleiman Zingari, a newcomer from Iraq, was seriously injured while crossing a street near here yesterday. He was taken to the Rothschild Hospital in Haifa.

Services, Firecrackers, Costumes, Parties Greet Festive Purim

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The reading of the Scroll of Esther to a packed congregation in the Great Synagogue and to a crowd of some 1,500 jamming Allenby Road outside the building, was interrupted here tonight by an electric current cut lasting some minutes. The reading, which was relayed by Kol Israel, was continued by candlelight.

While rattles were used inside the synagogue at the mention of "Haman," youngsters outside, many of them in fancy dress, threw fire crackers which scared people around them. The use of crackers and other toy explosives was prohibited during the holiday by the Tel Aviv Municipality, which asked shopkeepers to refrain from selling them.

Traffic was diverted from the area around the synagogue during the service. Throughout the day, the streets of this city were packed with gaily dressed youngsters, parading back and forth and eyeing each others' costumes.

Walt Disney's "Cinderella," playing at the Migdalor Cinema, drew capacity audiences of children yesterday and today. Many parents treated their children to visits to the Zoo, Luna Park in Jaffa, or the Ramat Gan circus.

Wizo, the Working Mothers' Organization and other groups have arranged Purim parties for children in *ma'barot* and immigrant centres, and will distribute sweets and toys.

No Austerity in Haifa

In Haifa, austerity went on leave as countless children, carefree with a three-day school vacation ahead of them, thronged the main thoroughfares of Hadar Hacarmel, clad in fancy dress that testified to their mothers' skill and imagination, but hardly reflected a year of textile rationing.

Queen Esther and moustached devils abounded as usual, but some small girls, dressed up as flowers and bees, added a touch of originality. A group of children in genuine Dutch national costume, complete with pipes for the boys and wooden clogs for all, aroused much admiration along Rehov Nordau.

Masks and tiaras, many of them made of scarce bristol paper, were sold in vast numbers. Florists and toy shops achieved record turnovers and prices went up to new heights. The current buying spree concentrated on gifts today, particularly spirits and pastry.

Jerusalem Police Party

Fifty children from the Hartuv *ma'bara* were the guests of the Jerusalem police force yesterday.

Travelling in police cars, the children sang lustily as they were taken on a visit around the Jerusalem area including Mt. Herzl and Mt. Zion. They also lunched at the police restaurant with Superintendent of Police Levi Avrahami.

On Mt. Zion yesterday afternoon, the Room of the Scrolls was opened by Dr. S.Z. Kahana of the Ministry for Religious Affairs. The scrolls were retrieved from destroyed Jewish communities in the Diaspora.

A festive meal was served on Tuesday in all school and kindergarten cafeterias which are supported by the Ministry of Social Welfare. Sweets and fruit were distributed to each child and folk dancing followed the meal.

In Beersheba, a crowd of children from many countries paraded through the town in festive spirit. For many of them it was their first real Purim.

BRITISH MUSEUM LOCK STOLEN

LONDON, Wednesday (Reuter). — Someone has stolen a master lock of the British Museum, possession of which would give access to priceless national treasures.

Fearing a planned raid on the museum, officials immediately ordered all exterior locks in the building to be changed.

Offices Closed

All Government offices, except those in Jerusalem, will be closed today on the occasion of Purim. Offices in the capital will be closed tomorrow. Essential public services will be maintained on the two days.

Tel Aviv Birthday

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — A marble plinth with an inset metal bas-relief depicting Tel Aviv's past, present and future will be unveiled in "Founders' Square," at the corner of Shderot Rothschild and Rehov Nahlat Binyamin at noon on Friday, the 90th anniversary of the birth of the late Meir Dizengoff, first Mayor and "Father of the City."

The bas-relief was designed and executed by Mr. A. Priver.

The approach to the site will be closed to traffic from 10 a.m. on Friday. Admission to the square is by invitation only. All municipal offices will be closed on Friday.

The Municipal Council's Dizengoff prize for painters and sculptors will be distributed at a ceremony at the Tel Aviv Museum at 4 o'clock.

To mark the occasion, the Israel Philatelic Service will issue a special 40-pruta stamp tomorrow. The stamp, designed by the brothers Shamir and depicting the monument, is dark brown and bears the inscription—"Tel Aviv: 40 years old."

Histadrut Adopts IL.3m. Budget

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The Histadrut Executive today unanimously adopted a budget of IL.3,016,070 for the coming fiscal year.

Mr. M. Namir, Secretary-General of the Histadrut, said it was a "dynamic" budget, and that it would be reconsidered if circumstances should change considerably within the next six months.

The Budget contains a IL.-126,170 deficit, which, Mr. Namir said, was only natural in the circumstances "unprecedented in Jewish history."

The largest item of income — IL.1.6m. — is to come from membership fees. The Histadrut commercial and industrial organizations are to contribute IL.300,000 and contributions from donations abroad are listed at IL.730,000.

According to Mr. I. Bankover, Mapam voted for it in order to stress the basic unity of Israel labour in the task of absorption of immigration and "in the common struggle against reaction which was raising its head." Mr. Y. Sharri of Haoved Hazioni, made a similar statement.

Man Finds Wife, Son Unconscious

HAIFA, Wednesday. — When Shraga Masbaum returned home from work yesterday afternoon, he found both his wife and his three-year-old son unconscious. The doctor who gave them first aid said they had been poisoned.

According to the police, the wife, Rosa, 23, has since confessed to having given the boy, David four narcotic pills and then having swallowed six herself in a suicide attempt.

She said that the boy failed to develop normally and was unable to walk or speak. Doctors had told her that there was little hope of an improvement. The boy was taken to the Government Hospital here and is in a critical condition, while the mother was treated at home.

Mother Held for Trying To Poison Daughter

HADERA, Wednesday. — A mother was remanded for 15 days here today on a charge of trying to force her 19-year-old daughter to take poison.

Mrs. Zilla Weisel, of Jaffa, yesterday visited her daughter stationed in a Nahal camp in the Sharon and asked the girl to swallow some pills which allegedly contained poison.

The daughter refused and screamed when her mother tried to force her to swallow them. Attracted by the girl's cries, military police appeared and handed the mother over to the civil police.

Mrs. Weisel is reported to have been angered by her daughter's friendship with a man whom she considered undesirable.

SHAVIT
BEST COFFEE SURROGATE

Rebel Communists Launch New Party

ROME, Wednesday (Reuter). — Italy's two rebel Communist deputies, Aldo Cucchi and Valdo Magnani, after six weeks underground, openly announced last night the birth of a nation-wide organization to draw workers away from the biggest Communist party outside Russia.

The two deputies, looking pale and tired, outlined their programme to left-wing sympathizers in their first public reappearance since they rebelled last month against "the Italian Communist Party's enslavement to Moscow."

They bitterly attacked Russia's manipulation of the Italian Communist Party in the interests of one party — the Soviet government — but declared that they did not intend to form a new political party to add to the confused medley of left-wing groups already active in Italy.

They said they would devote themselves to building up an organization the mere skeleton of which has already been established throughout most of Italy — "the Movement for the Unity and Independence of the Working Class."

Attlee in Hospital

LONDON, Wednesday (Reuter). — Prime Minister Attlee went into a London hospital today for a general medical check up. He was treated for a duodenal ulcer three years ago, and the trouble has recently returned.

Mr. Herbert Morrison will preside over the Cabinet in his absence.

I.P.O. to Leave Tomorrow After Successful U.S. Tour

NEW YORK, Wednesday (INA). — Some members of the IPO will leave for Israel by air on Friday and the others on Sunday. They gave their last concert yesterday at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. The Orchestra's performance on Monday night at Carnegie Hall earned a number of critical bouquets.

The "Herald-Tribune" said that Josef Kaminski's "Legend and Dance for Strings," played for the first time in America, was "admirably performed" and was well received by the audience.

The "World Telegram" reviewer considered the Orchestra "good by any standards" and praised its handling of the classics.

The "Mirror" spoke highly of the works by Kaminski and Marc Lavry and expressed the hope that in their next visit it would play other Israel compositions.

TEL AVIV, Wednesday — Although originally billed to appear with the I.P.O. this season, the world-famous cellist, Gregor Piatigorski, will not play in Israel before next season.

The I.P.O. management pointed out today that advance notices were always made "subject to alterations."

Another artist who was billed to appear this season but who will not come is the violinist Nathan Milstein, who refuses to travel by air. His visit to Israel must therefore be made part of a wider tour. Two artists who will play with the Orchestra this season, although not originally billed, are Artur Rubinstein, pianist, and Tossi Spivakovsky, violinist.

A Matter Of Two Zeros

Aaron Yoscovich, 75, of the Bet Israel quarter of Jerusalem, complained to police yesterday that two women had swindled him of IL.70, $65 and a gold pocket watch.

He claimed that in discussing an "arrangement for an apartment" he had given them the money and watch for which they gave him $400. When they left he found that the money actually amounted to only $4.

Police are investigating.

More Israel Goods to U.S. In 1950 But Trade Gap Is $85m.

By Lois F. Allen, U.P. Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Wednesday. — Although the proportionate increase of Israel exports to the U.S. exceeded that of U.S. exports to Israel for the year 1950, the trade balance gap stood at the formidable figure of $85m.

The tremendous gap was, however, not as alarming as it might seem, an American expert in the field of U.S.-Israel trade said here. He pointed out that Israel imported substantial amounts of machinery and steel products last year, much of which will go to increase her own productive capacity and progressively lessen her dependence on outside sources for industrial products. At present, the wide trade balance gap is being bridged from outright cash gifts, gift parcels and proceeds from Export-Import Bank Loans.

Calculations based on U.S. Department of Commerce figures show that the increase of Israel exports to this country from 1949 to 1950 was about 30 per cent, against a corresponding increase of 19 per cent in U.S. exports to Israel.

In dollars, however, Israel sold the U.S. $7.5,536 worth of goods last year compared to $5,993,602 during the same period in 1949. Against this, U.S. exports to Israel totalled in 1950 $93,008,135 compared to $77,999,193 for the 12 months of 1949.

Israel's biggest export item were precious and semi-precious stones, including imitation and industrial diamonds. This classification totalled $6,843,644 during 1950. Other export items that have been sent to the U.S. in increasing quantities are books, maps, pictures and other printed matter, and beverages including brandy and wine. The wine shipments in particular more than doubled the 11,033 gallons sold to the U.S. in 1949, and Israel's export of vegetable products also rose sharply.

Large shipments of chocolate and oranges were sent to the U.S. in 1950 although no such shipments were made during 1949. On the other hand, U.S. imports of meat products from Israel declined considerably.

U.N. Will Move to Paris; Israel Opposed

LAKE SUCCESS, Wednesday — The U.N. General Assembly yesterday voted to hold its next session in Paris, beginning on November 6. The decision followed a procedural debate in which the Assembly finally decided that the decision only required a simple majority and not a two thirds vote.

The vote — 24 in favour, 17 against and 13 abstentions — was split in all directions, with Britain, the entire Soviet Bloc and most of the Latin American countries in favour, and the U.S., Canada and Australia opposed.

Israel voted against the proposed move, on the grounds of the financial expense and the untried nature of the new facilities. Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Yemen abstained, while Lebanon supported the resolution.

It was generally agreed by delegations that the entire session should be held in Paris, even if it meant staying over Christmas.

(Reuter, INA)

CRASH.—A Royal Air Force Mosquito crashed into the North Sea yesterday with a crew of two. Survivors have not been found.

S.S. Elath Sails For America

HAIFA, Wednesday.—The s.s. Elath was due to sail from Liverpool to the U.S. today to load a cargo of grain for Israel.

The 12,050-ton freighter was acquired recently by the Israel-America Line.

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Cables in Brief

AMBASSADOR. — The first Spanish Ambassador in London since 1938, Duke Primo de Rivera, has arrived in London by air from Madrid.

ICELAND. — Spain and Iceland have renewed their current trade agreement till the end of the year. It has been announced in London. A considerable increase in mutual trade is foreseen.

British Delegation Due on Monday

TEL AVIV, Wednesday. — The eight-member British parliamentary delegation, invited by the Knesset to spend a week in Israel, is due to arrive by B.O.A.C. on Monday morning.

The group will be led by Lord Samuel, first High Commissioner for Palestine.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, the Foreign Secretary; former Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, and Mr. Anthony Eden were the guests at a luncheon given for the delegation in London yesterday by Mr. Eliahu Elath, Israel Minister.



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Adar II 14, 5711. Jumad Tani 14, 1370

SUEZ AND SINAI

BRITAIN'S new sterling agreement with Egypt was passed by the House of Commons on Tuesday by only three votes, an uncommonly narrow majority even in the present precarious position of the Labour Government. During the debate that preceded the vote several Labour members had joined in the criticism of the terms of the agreement, arguing that some kind of concession might have been wrung from Egypt in return; failing that the arrangement was no more than the appeasement which Mr. Bevin customarily practised upon Nahas Pasha.

Mr. Bevin had long been convinced that no price was too high to pay for Egyptian friendship, perhaps not appreciating that the present rulers of Egypt are in no position to make an open gesture of friendship towards Britain — which would mean agreeing to the continued British occupation of the Canal Zone — since the people's inclination towards xenophobia has been only too successfully exploited. The Cairo government can now only maintain its position by a constant display of hostility in public, though this does not necessarily rule out concessions in private.

It was repeatedly suggested in the House of Commons that it was quixotic, in particular, to promise to facilitate the supply of petroleum products to Egypt at a time when that country was still illegally blocking the passage of British oil supplies through the Suez Canal. Clearly it is felt that with only 17 years to go until the Canal finally becomes Egyptian property, the position of the concessionnaires is no longer as strong as it was. It is also likely that the authors of this economic agreement were determined to keep rigidly to the economic level in order not to prejudice the chances of a settlement, and to trust that any agreement reached with the hesitant Egyptian politicians would tend to smooth the way for further and more significant talks.

Britain's days of imperialist policy are ended, however reluctant Mr. Churchill may still be to admit this fact. On her part, she must negotiate with Egypt today as with an independent, if not altogether equal, state. It will remain to be seen whether Egypt will learn to fit into this pattern, or whether she will continue to nourish her adolescent stubbornness and unwillingness for compromise lest this be interpreted as weakness. It is a question that will in the long run be as important for Israel as it is today for Britain's garrison in the Canal Zone. As far as that is concerned, the recent troop movements in empty Sinai are a likely pointer to the next step in Anglo-Egyptian developments.

STORM IN PORT

THERE is almost nothing so touching as the faithful old hound, the creature in which blind instinct has transcended both the majesty of reason and the sublimity of grand passion. The dog, Argos, "went down into the blackness of death, that moment he saw Odysseus again after twenty years." So in Merry England, the land of Frobisher, Hawkins, Drake and Nelson, many old sea dogs are contemplating going down into the blackness of death because an admiral of the other English-speaking nation is to look through the ultimate telescope of the North Atlantic Navies.

Old dogs who are up against it do not die happily; they fight to the death, bitterly and with desperate courage. And the bitterest thing they can suffer in the present instance is the proposition of the traditional "Observer" that in any future war, Britain's proximity to the Continent will make her primarily a land power whose defence will depend on military occupation of pocket bases. So one naval admiral has publicly announced that he will never let another copy of the "Observer" enter his house.

OPPOSITION TO SOVIET BRINGS NEW RESTRICTIONS

Crisis, Terror in Czechoslovakia

By Richard Mowrer

VIENNA.— THE recent crisis in Czechoslovakia serves as a reminder that opposition to the Soviet does go on. Sometimes this opposition breaks through to the surface, and then the Kremlin tries to beat it down by setting in motion a wave of terror which extends right to the top of the communist hierarchy in the satellite country.

Reports that some 20 legal experts went to Prague from Moscow indicated that preparations were being made for a big treason trial on the model of those held in Budapest and Sofia which took the lives of the communist leaders, Laszlo Rajk and Traycho Kostov.

Second Yugoslavia

Although Prague claims to have nipped in time a plot to make Czechoslovakia "a second Yugoslavia," security measures throughout the country are tighter than ever. Travellers from Prague report that persons visiting government offices on official business are now escorted by armed guards to the individual they want to see and then escorted out to the street again. Sentries are posted at bridges which hitherto had not been guarded. An atmosphere of anxiety and fear pervades the country and the authorities themselves are not immune to nervousness.

The reason for the continued tenseness is that the Moscow-dominated regime in Prague knows that despite the arrests, it has not crushed and cannot hope to crush all opposition in the country. Opposition to Moscow rule has shown itself in various places. One of these is the Slovak separatist movement, probably the most dangerous to the Kremlin in terms of Titoism, at the moment the hardest hit by the purge.

Slovak Nationalism

The issue of Slovak nationalism goes back to the earliest days of the Czechoslovak republic in 1918. Then as now the Slovaks disliked being ruled from Prague. After the liberation in 1945 the Slovaks demanded, and got, a large measure of self-rule. Autonomy extended also to the communists so that there are two separate parties in the country: the Czechoslovak communist party with headquarters in Prague and the Slovak communist party with its main offices in Bratislava.

One of the main objectives of the purge is to crack down hard on the Slovak communist party which has been too independent, too nationalist, and too reluctant to impose the collectivization programme on the predominantly peasant and intensely Catholic population of Slovakia. Thus it is not surprising that of the top communists denounced and arrested all but two (Otto Sling and Maria Svermova) are Slovaks. The Slovak communist party, or what is left of it, seems fated to come under the direct control of Prague, and Prague under the more vigilant control of Moscow.

Partisan Opposition

Besides its national communists Slovakia confronts the Kremlin with another, and far more vigorous, type of opposition. This is the partisan movement in the Tatra mountains which has fought pitched battles with government troops and is said to be in contact with anti-Soviet resistance groups in Poland and the Russian Ukraine. Clashes are reported to have occurred on January 19, January 28 and February 4 this year.

On the economic front opposition has developed on a broad scale owing to discontent over the decline of living standards brought on by Russia's draining away the country's resources. Of all the countries dominated by Moscow, Czechoslovakia has the strongest social and economic ties with the West. Its workers were among the best off in Europe and most peasants owned their land when the February 1948 coup came.

Even communists in high places felt impelled to resist the country's drift towards a slum economy, an inevitable consequence of subservience to Moscow. It is interesting to recall that when Marshall Plan aid was offered to Europe Czechoslovakia made a bid for it and then, at Moscow's instigation, brusquely withdrew its request. To a great extent the current crisis in Czechoslovakia is a consequence of the Czech regime's endeavours to maintain enough trade relations with the West to keep the country's standard of living from slumping too badly. This policy caused scheduled deliveries of industrial products to the Soviet Union to lag. Moscow cracked the whip by suspending deliveries of grain so that now bread and flour rationing have had to be imposed again.

Tracing the 'Plot'

Czech attempts to trade with the West directly, without passing through Moscow, explain the charges against the communist leaders Otto Sling and Maria Svermova: "plot to dominate the party, change its political line and revert to capitalism, a policy which leads to alliance with the imperialist camp." These communists, and others, will be served up to the public as scapegoats for Czechoslovakia's growing economic misery.

Trade with West

An ironic sidelight on Czechoslovakia's endeavours to maintain direct trade relations with western Europe is that in recent weeks at least ten shipments of gold bullion have been flown from Moscow to London, an operation explained by Russia's need to replenish its stocks of hard currency with which to pay for goods purchased in the West. The Soviet Union can go shopping outside the Iron Curtain but its satellites cannot do the same on their own.

This is one of the things the Kremlin-directed purge is designed to impress upon the Czechs. Another is that henceforth the Czechs are to eat less and work more. Completion of the five-year Plan in three years, that is by the end of 1953, has just been approved with alacrity by the non-purged members of the executive committee of the Czechoslovak communist party. The big item of the Plan is development of the steel industry which means, according to official pronouncements that at least 550,000 more persons will have to be employed in heavy industry, whether they like it or not.

Time, Manners and Punctuality

By Edwin Samuel

WE really are a most unpunctual people. Whether we came from the Middle East or from Eastern Europe, time is largely relative. If you arrange to meet a man at six o'clock, neither you nor he takes that as anything more than a very approximate arrangement. All you mean is some time after six but certainly not before six and rather fortuitously at six itself.

That is not so bad for private appointments but when public gatherings are concerned a huge amount of collective time is wasted through unpunctuality. Concerts and theatres have no shame in beginning anything up to half an hour after the scheduled time. If the performance begins punctually and the doors are closed, latecomers protest violently at their unfair treatment and make such a noise outside that the performance is interrupted while they are let in fuming. We all complain about this, but no-one does anything about it.

Bad Manners

With public meetings, the situation is even worse. If you arrive at the scheduled time, as likely as not you will find not one solitary person in the hall (which will probably still be locked). Not even the organizers have arrived. Members of the public drift in up to an hour after the opening of the meeting. The noise made by each new entrant causes the whole audience to turn round to see who it is. This is sheer bad manners on the late-comer's part. If you can't be punctual, don't come at all.

Academic Privilege

As we have government in Israel by Committee, one would have thought that here at least punctuality would be insisted on. But no: half the members of any committee are not there for the beginning of the meeting and the other half have to leave before the end, in order to go to another committee meeting for which they are already half an hour late. A member of the Jewish Agency at a committee meeting in Jerusalem once excused himself for leaving early as he had to be in Tel Aviv for another committee meeting which had already started in Tel Aviv an hour previously.

Why should there be this chronic unpunctuality at committee meetings? The disease is endemic. If everyone else is to be late, you at least are not going to be made a fool of: so you come late on purpose. Some people claim the privilege of the academic quarter of an hour. There is no objection to this arrangement provided that it is understood that the academic quarter of an hour comes before and not after the scheduled time of starting.

Most people who come late have little time sense. They once used to have a sense of time: but through trying for years to pack ten hours' work into an eight-hour day, they have destroyed their pride in punctuality. They must be rescued from their own bad habits. Those who are still punctual must set an example, arrive on time and start the committee meeting even if they are the only persons present. It's surprising how so much more business can be got through in this way.

INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY SURVIVES IN ISRAEL

Circassian Warriors on the Land

By Ruth Cale

KAMA — WHEN it comes to voting for the Knesset, the Circassian village of Kafr Kama will go all out for Mapai, say the village elders. For one thing, they like living in Israel; then they appreciate what the Government has been doing for them during the past three years; and they like Mapai's conception of democracy.

There is also another reason. "Mr. Ben Gurion has been a personal friend of ours for many years," explained one of the villagers. "When he was a watchman at Sejera, he was once wounded by an Arab bullet. One of our men found him, carried him five miles to Kafr Kama, and tended his wounds." Ever since then, Mr. Ben Gurion visits the village when he passes by, so the story goes, and shakes hands with his rescuer, now one of the oldest members of the community.

Fiery Warriors

Exciting tales were told of the Circassians during the War of Liberation when, on horseback, they fought side by side with the Jews. There was little dispute about their fighting qualities, and they had many successful actions to their credit. Since then, most of them have returned to their two villages in Galilee, one near Kfar Tabor and the other near Safad, to till the soil.

The Circassians are sometimes confused with the Arabs and the Druze. As far as origin is concerned, they have nothing whatever in common with these, for the Circassians are not even Semites. They fled the Caucasus after their war with the Russians during the second half of the last century, and were settled in Palestine by Sultan Abdul Hamid. There are just over 1,200 of them in Israel, and about a similar number in Jordan.

Surrounded only by Arabs for many years, they have adopted some of the Arab customs, speak Arabic, and some of them have Arab names. But essentially, they are a minority of their own. Their womenfolk lead a very secluded life, stay at home most of the time and when seen in narrow village lanes cover their faces so closely that they manage to walk only with difficulty. That custom is a relic of the old days, when the Circassians would not allow their women to be seen by Arabs.

The inhabitants of Kafr Kama unanimously assert that "life is better now than it was under the Mandate." They explain that the Jews who have been minorities everywhere for 2,000 years, know how to treat minorities. The Jews have taught them modern agricultural methods, organized cooperatives, and helped them with loans. Not that they wanted money—in some cases, Government officials said, they had difficulty in persuading Circassian ex-soldiers to accept loans granted to former members of the forces in order to help them rehabilitate themselves into civilian life.

Modern Methods

A farming cooperative is the latest of the modernization attempts carried out in the village. Last November, some of the ex-soldiers pooled their land and resources under the guidance of Ministry of Agriculture experts. The older villagers did not approve of the idea, and they still look on sceptically while their sons drive out with the tractor to plough the commonly owned fields. "Many more will join us when they see the results," said Abdul Hamid Shabsu, an ex-police sergeant and now secretary of the co-op. Tall and fair-haired, 23-year-old Abdul Hamid is the youngest member of the joint venture.

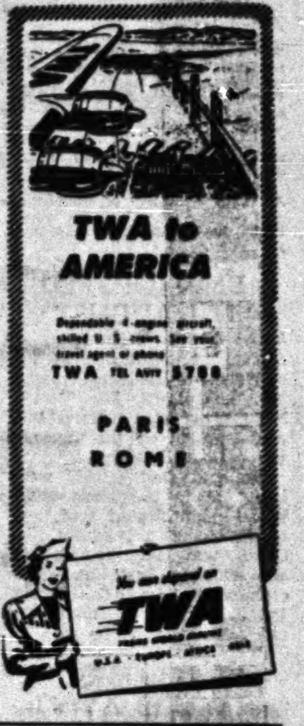
To persuade the other villagers that the cooperative system is good, they are now hiring out their tractor to all who want it at the low rate of 450 pruta per dunam, but they know that until they have installed a water pipeline, built new houses, increased their chicken run and marketed their first produce, the nine youths will get little support for their 500-dunam enterprise.

Children Everywhere

Their cooperative store is more popular with the people, for there they get good merchandise at low prices. But so far there is little in the store, because the villagers have stubbornly refused to accept the clothing and footwear coupons allocated to them, asserting they are inadequate. They have no clothing allocations, and thus there are many things they are unable to buy.

The absence of women in the lanes makes you believe that the village, which has 900 inhabitants, consists almost entirely of children. There are few men about, for they are out in the fields till dark, but there are children everywhere, by the dozen. "We have 300 children of school age, and many more smaller ones," said Abdul Hamid, as the youngsters tore down the lanes to have a look at the visitors. About 50 per cent of the population are children. The school has become too small, and classes are now held in two shifts, as in some Tel Aviv schools.

With the modernization of their agriculture, the Circassians are becoming ambitious. Many are now planning a thorough education for their youngsters. Some want to send the children to secondary and high schools, and others want to have them trained properly in agriculture at the nearby Kadoorie School. "We need technical help, and we know next to nothing about scientific farming," said the young co-op members. "We are even considering sending one of our members to university." The Kadoorie School has promised to admit some of them, for the Circassians know Hebrew already, and some speak it fluently.



Readers' Letters

"NON-VATIKIM"

To the Editor of The POST

Sir,—I think that it would be generally agreed that decent housing should be available not only for "olim" and "vatikim" but also for those who belong to the intermediate category.

Most of this non-priority group are ignored by the Jewish Agency and yet are unable to get accommodation either as vatikim (because they have not been members of the Histradut for five years) or as ex-servicemen. Many of them cannot afford to buy apartments or meet the rising demands for key money. It is time for the Government, which conscripts even non-vatikim for different sorts of national service, to help to provide decent accommodation for its "soldiers on 11 months' leave."

Apartments and rooms should be requisitioned from people who have them to spare (as was done in "reception areas" in England to house evacuees during the World War) and the rents of such accommodation should be controlled. Special rent tribunals or other bodies should really deal with the evils of key money, excessive or inadequate rents (for both furnished and unfurnished accommodation) and other illegal, or unfair practices. Various public bodies, including the Histadrut, should provide housing for non-vatikim to rent.

This problem should be dealt with at once, not only for the sake of the persons immediately concerned, but also for the general welfare of the nation.

Yours etc.,
H. HART

Haifa, March 18.

NON-BUILDING FINE

To the Editor of The POST

Sir, — The recent statement by the Minister of Trade and Industry only confirms the existing fact that private building is impossible for the majority.

Under these circumstances would it not be fair to suspend, for the time being, the heavy taxation on vacant building plots, by both the Government and the Municipal authorities?

Should a person be fined for not building when it is impossible for him to build?

Yours etc.,
MICHAEL FAINSTEIN

Rehovot, March 20.

MORE LUXURY WANTED

To the Editor of The POST

Sir. — Under the heading, "Cruise Visitors Well Impressed," in your issue yesterday you quoted me as saying that "the only adverse comment voiced by some of the tourists, concerned accommodation in Tel Aviv, which, they said, was below what they had anticipated...." In order to avoid any misunderstanding, I would like to stress the fact that Tel Aviv hotels extended every possible service and courtesy to these visitors. Some of the visitors, however, felt that Tel Aviv hotels were rather small and suggested that they would have preferred a more luxurious type of accommodation.

Yours etc.,
Dr. W. BLOCH,
Director,
Government Tourist Dept.

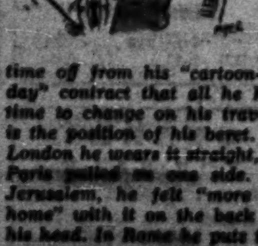
Hakirya, March 19.

KEEPING POSTED

WHEN five governments of five countries resigned during a single week-end recently, one of our readers with an imaginative turn of mind suggested that the countries concerned might exchange their governments, or at least their premiers. The Shah of Persia might thus have welcomed the strong hand of the Turkish premier, and Greece might have found an import from Israel useful. This country, our friend suggests, could perhaps use some French recipes, and the scheme might be usefully extended to other countries, but the imagination boggles at Mr. Attlee in Washington or Stalin in the Commons, although one might project Churchill to the Kremlin and Peron to South Africa. So enticing are the vistas opened up by these possibilities that one is tempted to throw all governments into a hat and draw lots....

* * *

"VICKY," (Victor Weisz) famed political cartoonist of the London "News Chronicle," who was in Israel this week for a whirlwind tour explained that he has so little



time off from his "cartoon-a-day" contract that all he has time to change on his travels is the position of his beret. In London he wears it straight, in Paris pulled to one side. In Jerusalem, he felt "more at home" with it on the back of his head. In Rome he puts the beret in his pocket.

WHEN one of our colleagues had only a few hours' notice of the need for an urgent trip to London last week, El Al, the national air line, went all out to cut red tape. Accepting the word of *The POST* that the fare had been paid in foreign currency in London, they made the necessary arrangements with the immigration department, and flew our friend out four hours after the booking had been made.

* * *

LAST Friday an inter-urban taxi stopped to let out at her request a pretty and well groomed girl. The sympathetic passengers thought she felt unwell, but she stepped out briskly enough and strode across to a nearby orange grove. One of the passengers called out to her that it was against the law to pluck the fruit, but she calmly broke off a twig with several leaves. Returning to the car, she smiled prettily and indicated that she was ready to go on; and tucked the twig into her lapel. When a passenger asked her why, she replied "I'm Irish, and being a tourist have lost track of the dates. I've just seen in The JERUSALEM POST that tomorrow, March 17, is St. Patrick's Day, and I didn't have my bit of green. This is it.... and I'm sure the owner of the grove won't mind."

* * *

A FRIEND of ours who was recently inducted into the army for his two-year period of service, came home on his first leave and reported that although he does not mind being ordered out of bed to dress five times in a single night in order to conform with the army's theories on enforcing discipline he thinks it a bit hard that a soldier earning only IL.4 a month should be asked by his sergeant to contribute, along with other members of his platoon, 250 prutot each towards supplying enough electric bulbs to light their hut, where they now have only one.

* * *

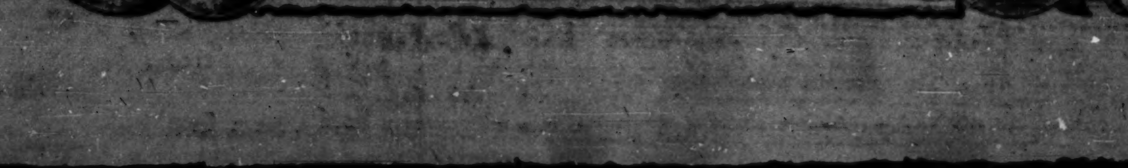
RETURNING from the Artists' Purim Ball in Jerusalem last Saturday evening, a quiet citizen who had taken advantage of his (real) beard to go dressed as King Ibn Saud, was walking home along Rehov Ben Yehuda, when he heard voices calling to him in Arabic. Ignoring them, he was about to turn a corner when he was accosted by a breathless policeman who asked to



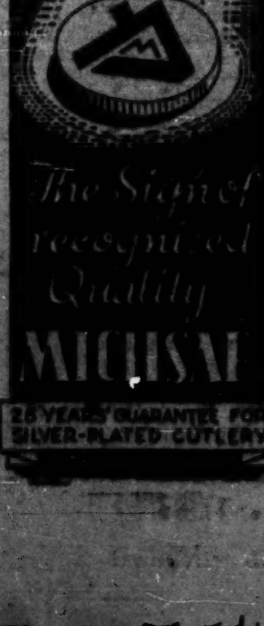
see his identity card. The man was saved more explanations by the presence of his wife. A second look at her, dressed in a Spanish gown and "mantilla" convinced the hasty policeman that only Purim, and not the king, had come to town. Apart from the colourful costumes at the ball, the decorations were as usual an outstanding feature and contributed considerably to the gaiety of the party.

Today's contributors include: P.A., of Benyamina, and Mitzi Klein, of Jerusalem.

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